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Approved:

  
DANIEL H. WOLF

Assistant United States Attorney

Before: HONORABLE KEVIN NATHANIEL FOX  
United States Magistrate Judge  
Southern District of New York

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 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : COMPLAINT  
 :  
 - v. - : Violations of 18 U.S.C.  
 : §§ 922(g), 924(c), 21  
 : U.S.C. § 841(a)(1),  
 : (b) (1) (a), 18 U.S.C. § 2  
 CLIFFORD TAYLOR, :  
 :  
 Defendant. : COUNTY OF OFFENSE:  
 : BRONX  
 :  
 -----x

STATE OF NEW YORK ) ss:  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK )

EDGARDO BARBOT, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is a Detective with the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"), and charges as follows:

COUNT ONE

1. On or about February 22, 2019, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, CLIFFORD TAYLOR, the defendant, intentionally and knowingly distributed and possessed with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a)(1).

2. The controlled substance that CLIFFORD TAYLOR, the defendant, distributed and possessed with intent to distribute was 400 grams and more of mixtures and substances containing a detectable amount of fentanyl, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(b)(1)(A).

(Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A); and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.)

COUNT TWO

3. On or about February 22, 2019, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, CLIFFORD TAYLOR, the defendant, after having been previously convicted in a court of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, knowingly did possess in and affecting commerce, a firearm, to wit, a .357 caliber Ruger Model SP101 revolver, which had previously been shipped and transported in interstate and foreign commerce.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 922(g)(1) and 2.)

COUNT THREE

4. On or about February 22, 2019, in the Southern District of New York and elsewhere, CLIFFORD TAYLOR, the defendant, during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime for which he may be prosecuted in a court of the United States, namely, the possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance charged in Count One of this Complaint, knowingly did use and carry a firearm, and, in furtherance of such crime, did possess a firearm.

(Title 18, United States Code, Sections 924(c)(1)(A)(i) and 2.)

The bases for my knowledge of the foregoing charge are, in part, as follows:

5. I am a Detective with the NYPD and I have been personally involved in the investigation of this matter. This affidavit is based upon my personal participation in the investigation, my examination of reports and records, and my conversations with other law enforcement agents and other individuals. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of demonstrating probable cause, it does not include all the facts that I have learned during the course of my investigation. Where the contents of documents and the actions, statements, and conversations of others are reported herein, they are reported in substance and in part, except where otherwise indicated.

6. Based on my conversations with a parole officer ("Parole Officer-1") assigned to supervise CLIFFORD TAYLOR, the defendant, my review of criminal history and parole records, and

my training and experience, I have learned the following, in substance and in part:

a. On or about July 11, 2016, TAYLOR was convicted of attempted criminal possession of a controlled substance, in violation of New York Penal Law § 220.16(12), a felony (the "2016 Conviction"). On or about the same date, TAYLOR was sentenced in connection with the 2016 Conviction to a 4 year term of imprisonment to be followed by 2 years of supervised release.

b. On or about March 1, 2018, TAYLOR concluded his term of imprisonment in connection with the 2016 Conviction and was released to the supervision of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.

c. On or about March 2, 2018, TAYLOR met with Parole Officer-1 and advised Parole Officer-1 that he (TAYLOR) would be residing at an apartment ("Apartment-1") in the Bronx, New York, located in Apartment Building-1. TAYLOR also provided Parole Officer-1 with a copy of a lease to Apartment-1 that identified TAYLOR as the lessee of that apartment.

d. Between on or about March 2, 2018, and on or about February 22, 2019, Parole Officer-1 conducted approximately six visits to Apartment-1. During those visits, Parole Officer-1 identified no signs that anyone other than TAYLOR resided at Apartment-1.

7. Based on my conversations with Parole Officer-1, and other parole officers who accompanied Parole Officer-1 to Apartment-1 on or about February 22, 2019, my conversations with members of the NYPD who participated in arresting CLIFFORD TAYLOR, the defendant, on or about February 22, 2019, my review of NYPD arrest paperwork, and my training and experience, I have learned the following, in substance and in part:

a. On or about February 22, 2019, Parole Officer-1 and three other parole officers (together with Parole Officer-1, the "Parole Officers") conducted an unannounced search of Apartment-1 pursuant to the conditions of TAYLOR's supervised release.

b. During the search, the Parole Officers located a wall at the back (the "Back Wall") of a closet inside the living room of Apartment-1 that appeared to the Parole Officers to be

made of a substance that was different than any of the other walls in the apartment. The Parole Officers also observed that molding was affixed to the top of the Back Wall but not to the side-walls of the closet.

c. After closer inspection of the Back Wall, including physically examining the Back Wall, the Parole Officers concluded that the Back Wall was in fact a "trap door" with a hinge dividing the wall vertically. By pulling on the molding that was affixed to the top of the wall, the Parole Officers were then able to open the "trap door," behind which they found shelves containing what appeared to the Parole Officers to be controlled substances (the "Substances"), as well as firearms (the "Firearms").

8. Based on my review of NYPD evidence vouchers and NYPD narcotics laboratory tests, and my training and experience, I have learned that (a) the Substances included, among other items, 611.74 grams of a mixture or substance containing fentanyl, and (b) the Firearms included a .357 caliber Ruger Model SP101 revolver.

9. Based on correspondence with an agent of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives trained in the identification of firearms, I understand that the .357 caliber Ruger Model SP101 revolver is manufactured outside New York State.

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request that CLIFFORD TAYLOR, the defendant, be imprisoned, or bailed, as the case may be.

Det. E. Barbot

EDGARDO BARBOT  
Detective  
New York City Police Department

Sworn to before me this  
3 day of May 2010

HONORABLE KEVIN NATHANIEL FOX  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

~~SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK~~

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U.S. M.S.